

CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

25X1A
25X1A
25X1A

ORIG: JAMES A. CUNNINGHAM
UNIT: DD/SA
EXT:
DATE: 25 FEBRUARY 1966

TOP SECRET

TO:
FROM: DIRECTOR
CONF:
INFO:

ROUTING			
1		9	
2		10	
3		11	
4		12	
5		13	
6		14	
7		15	
8		16	
PRIORITY	DEFERRED	PRIORITY	INITIALS
	ROUTINE	OPERATIONAL IMMEDIATE	INITIALS

06259

TO IMMEDIATE

CITE

5382

IDEALIST

FROM MR. CUNNINGHAM, ACTING

REF:

25X1A
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1. RE SECOND SENTENCE PARA 1. REF, AND THE POSSIBLE PANIC EFFECT THIS COULD HAVE ON BELIEVE IT SHOULD BE AMPLIFIED TO INDICATE THAT, BASED ON INFO PRESENTLY AVAILABLE, IT APPEARS THAT ARTICLE 342 WAS INADVERTENTLY OVERSTRESSED ^{IN SOME MANNER} IN AIR REFUELING FOLLOWING A DRY HOOKUP ^A AND AFTER BREAKING AWAY FROM THE TANKER.

2. IT ~~WAS~~ OCCURRED TO HQS THAT "STRUCTURAL FAILURE" MIGHT IMPLY ALL MANNER OF HORRORS ADD TO OUR EXISTING BURDENS IN CONNECTION WITH EVENTUAL RESUMPTION TACKLE FLTS.

3. IT APPEARS QUITE PROBABLE THAT WIRE SERVICES WILL PICK ACCIDENT UP IN LIGHT OF INQUIRIES ALREADY IN HANDS OF AIR FORCE HQS. WRECKAGE FELL APPROX 33 NM ON A 330 DEGREE RADIAL FROM EDWARDS TACAN IN

COORDINATING OFFICERS

TOP SECRET

RELEASING OFFICER

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downgrading and
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TO INFO CITE
FOOT HILLS OF SIERRA NEVADAS IN RELATIVELY INACCESSABLE LOCATION.

PILOT TRACKED TO GROUND BY [REDACTED] IN T-33 CHASE AND KC-135 25X1A
TANKER. PICKED UP IN MATTER OF MINUTES BY EAFB CHOPPER AND RETURNED
TO BASE.

25X1A 4. RE [REDACTED] STATUS; SAC HAS BEEN ADVISED. BELIEVE IT UNLIKELY
25X1A THEY WILL RESPOND BY GROUNDING THEIR PILOTS. GENERAL LEDFORD,

[REDACTED] PRESENTLY ON SCENE AT [REDACTED] 25X1A

END OF MESSAGE

25X1A

JAMES A. CUNNINGHAM, JR.
AD/SA

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